GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1853
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
REVIEW WORK OF ICHR
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review the working of Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and to hold inquiry regarding missing file on `Towards Freedom` Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been completed;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made therein; and

(e) the action so far taken by the Government on such recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c): A One-Man Review Committee under Shri D. Bandyopadhyay submitted its report on the functioning of the ICHR and has also looked into the issue of the missing file on `Towards Freedom` project.

(d): The Committee took note of the missing files and found that unless `important files were retrieved, much of the material relating to the non-publication/stoppage (of) `Towards Freedom` Project (would) never be unearthed`. The Committee made many recommendations regarding this project including that the project be revived immediately and recommended that it should be completed within the next 24 months. It also made wide ranging recommendations regarding reconstitution of the Editorial Board and suggested ways and means of ensuring prompt action for printing and publication of the volumes related to the project.

(e): The Government have accepted the recommendations of the One-Man Review Committee and have asked the ICHR to implement the said recommendations. As per the information provided by the ICHR, the `Towards Freedom` project has also been revived and already two volumes have been made ready for publication and work on finalization of the manuscript of two more volumes has been initiated.